12/7/69

Mr. Joseph A. Ball
Ball, Hunt and Hart
120 Linden Ave.
Long Beach, Calif. 90802

Dear Mr. Ball,

Although you were never gentlemanly enough to retract publicly the defamations you recanted in private, there is this one thing that distinguishes you from the other former counsel of the Warren Commission, you did have enough honesty to do it privately. It is for this reason alone that I write you and none of your former colleagues.

In commong with them, you have loudly called for "new evidence", as though there were something wrong with the evidence you so sadly abused and misrepresented - other than what you did to it.

So, I write to ask you what you would do if shown such "new evidence"? By this I mean merely what was denied the Warren Commission.

I have it. I also have it duplicated and stored elsewhere. It is not subject to misinterpretation. It does not equivocate. And it is very basic.

I think you know enough about me to know when I say this it is true.

Because I believe it should not be used for sensation but must first appear in proper context, I will not be using it immediately. This permits ample time for you to respond and, if your response satisfied me, for me to show it to you, if you give me your assurance you will under no circumstances say anything about it to anyone else, directly or indirectly.

If my last letter, to which you did not respond, added to what is already public, does not make you wonder what will happen to your reputation and that of your former associates, I do believe, if you see this "new evidence" that thought will be much on your mind. You may all be added to the too-long list of unnecessary victims of the great tragedy and the almost as great a one of which you were part.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg